

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 204002  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:AFLANIGAN:CSR  
APPROVED BY C:MNIMETZ  
EUR/SE:RCEWING  
S/S-O:JTHYDEN  
D:MBARNES  
EUR:GSVEST

-----064284 120121Z /64

P R 112153Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
USMISSION USNATO  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204002

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GR,TU

SUBJECT:ELEKDAG DISCUSSES GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS

1. DURING LUNCH HOSTED BY ACTING SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER, AUGUST 8, TURKISH MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG REVIEWED HIS JULY 4-5 CONVERSATIONS WITH GREEK MFA SEC GEN THEODOROPOULOS. ELEKDAG'S ACCOUNT OF THE TALKS WAS GENERALLY UPBEAT AND VERY SIMILAR TO PREVIOUS ACCOUNTS. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGED BY FACT THAT GREEKS HAD NOT FOLLOWED THEIR "USUAL PRACTICE" OF SELECTIVELY LEAKING INFORMATION ON THE TALKS FOR PROPOGANDA ADVANTAGE.

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2. ELEKDAG SAID THAT THE RECENT MEETING IN ISTANBUL OF GREEK AND TURKISH SUBCOMMITTEES ON THE AIR SPACE ISSUE HAD RESULTED IN NO BREAKTHROUGH BUT HAD PROVIDED A "GLIMMER OF HOPE". HE SAID THE AIRSPACE SUBCOMMITTEES WOULD MEET AGAIN IN ATHENS IN LATE AUGUST AND PRESENT A REPORT TO HIM AND THEODOROPOULOS PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO SEC GEN'S WHICH HE SAID IS NOW SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN

ATHENS ON SEPTEMBER 13.

3. THE ACTING SECRETARY SAID THE US WAS GRATIFIED BY THE POSITIVE ACCOUNTS WE HAD RECEIVED OF ELEKDAG-THEODOROPOULOS MEETING. HE COMMENTED THAT SUCH TALKS CONTRIBUTED TO A LESSENING OF TENSION IN THE AREA. THE US ALSO BELIEVED

EARLY GREEK REINTEGRATION INTO THE NATO MILITARY STRUCTURE WOULD FURTHER IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

4. IN SEPARATE AUG. 9 DISCUSSION OF AEGEAN ISSUES, ELEKDAG EMPHASIZED TO COUNSELOR NIMETZ THAT IT IS PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT'S POLICY TO SEEK TO RESOLVE THESE ISSUES. LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO DID NOT IN ANY WAY MAKE TURKEY LESS INTERESTED IN A SOLUTION. INDEED, THE TURKS BELIEVE MORE RAPID PROGRESS IS NOW POSSIBLE. IN GENERAL TERMS, ELEKDAG BELIEVED HIS DIALOGUE WITH THEODOROPOULOS WAS A GOOD ONE AND THAT PROGRESS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE AT THEIR SEPTEMBER MEETING.

5. WITH RESPECT TO THE AEGEAN ISLANDS, ELEKDAG SAID THE GOT WAS WILLING TO GIVE WHATEVER GUARANTEES GREECE WANTS. THE GREEKS HAVE ANXIETIES AND TURKEY IS WILLING TO SATISFY THESE BUT IN RETURN THEY EXPECT SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN OUTSTANDING ISSUES.  
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6. ON THE AIR SPACE QUESTION, ELEKDAG REVIEWED THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS AND SAID THAT HE HAD COME UP WITH A NEW IDEA WHICH WOULD PROVIDE FOR A NATO PROGRAM OF NOTIFICATION TO BOTH COUNTRIES OF AIRCRAFT TRAVELING THROUGH THE AEGEAN. HE DID NOT GET INTO DETAIL BUT SEEMED TO IMPLY THAT THE FIR LINE MIGHT REMAIN WHERE IT IS -- THUS ACCEPTING THE GREEK POSITION BUT ALSO GIVING TURKEY NOTIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT FOR SECURITY REASONS.

7. ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF, ELEKDAG STATED THAT THE WORLD COURT WOULD BE RENDERING ITS DECISION IN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER ON THE GREEK PETITION AND MIGHT WELL DECLARE THAT IT HAD NO JURISDICTION. HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY REAL PROGRESS WAS POSSIBLE BEFORE THEN; AFTER SUCH A DECISION THE TWO SIDES MIGHT BE MORE WILLING TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUE.

8. NIMETZ ASKED ELEKDAG WHY THE TURKS COULD NOT ACCEPT KARAMANLIS' FORMULATION OF NEGOTIATION PLUS RESOLUTION OF UNSOLVED ISSUES THROUGH INTERNATIONALLY ACCOMPLISHED METHODS. ELEKDAG REPLIED THAT ECEVIT HAD NOT REJECTED

THIS APPROACH AND IN FACT HAD TOLD KARAMANLIS AT MONTREUX THAT IT WAS IN PRINCIPLE ACCEPTABLE. ECEVIT FELT, HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO TELL THE NEGOTIATORS THIS FOR FEAR THEY WOULD NOT NEGOTIATE. THE TURKS HAVE NOT RULED OUT SOME FORM OF THIRD PARTY CONCILIATION IF THE WORLD COURT RULES IT HAS NO JURISDICTION AND NEGOTIATIONS ULTIMATELY BREAK DOWN. CHRISTOPHER

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PAGE 01 STATE 204002  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011  
DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:GTCHURCHILL:DME  
APPROVED BY PM/ISO:GTCHURCHILL  
S/S-O:KDSCOTT

-----094583 150535Z /23

R 142100Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
INFO USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204002

EXDIS, FOR POLAD, MIL ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 204002 SENT ACTION ANKARA INFO  
ATHENS, USNATO AND NICOSIA AUT 11.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204002

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, INFORMATION SECURITY, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**TAGS:** PEPR, PDIP, GR, TU, (ELEKDAG, SUKRU)  
**To:** ANKARA  
**Type:** TE  
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Sheryl P. Walter  
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